Growth of semi-permeable membrane of defined geometry - by flowing gas and liq. nutritional phases over substrate having cell layer which grows in controlled manner and is removed for further use, e.g. in human organ transplantation stations.

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   WO 9517526 A1 WO 1994-CH241 19941222; AU 9511900 A AU 1995-11900 19941222;
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     WO 9517526 A UPAB: 19950810
     The growth of a semi-permeable membrane uses a reaction chamber (1) and a
     medium chamber (2) through which a gas phase and a liquid nutritional
     phase flow. They pass over a semi-permeable membrane (M1) which serves as
     the substrate for the new membrane. The novelty is that the new cell
     material is inoculated to the semi-permeable membrane to form a first
     layer. The lower side of the semi-permeable membrane is
     flushed by nutritional solution and the upper side is flushed by
     the gas phase. Controlled cell growth ensues to form a number of layers
     and a cell structure (ML) from which metabolic by-products are removed by
     the gas and liquid phases to produce a cell structure which can be removed
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under sterile conditions for further use.

USE- The process and assembly produce a semi-permeable membrane of defined geometry, as used in the stations associated with human organ transplantation.

ADVANTAGE - The process and assembly are suitable for automated operation, thus largely removing the requirement for manual intervention. Dwg.1/3